

supplies man with food. The finny tribes he has neither fed nor tended. He has provided for them, no sustenance, no shelter, no guardian care. And yet, in the absence of all his attentions and culture, they are supplied to him in such abundance as to raise the question, whether, by all his fisheries, they are sensibly diminished. In sustaining his ships, the sea becomes a medium of communication for him between the ends of the earth. And let it be remembered, that these vessels are human abodes, and that thousands of our race, or hundreds of thousands, dwell mostly on the main. In every way, then, the ocean is included in the habitable globe.

FIRE.

Let us now advert to the other agent, FIRE. The ocean, in lashing shores, tends to wash them away; and if this power alone operated, islands and continents would gradually disappear. The sea, wearing down everything into its channel, would become less deep, and more extended, till all would be surrounded by its ascendant billows. To counteract this destruc-